

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MANILA 16890 020842Z

13

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2111
INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 16890

E. O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ELAB, RP, SA

SUBJECT: SAUDI DESIRE FOR FOREIGN MUSLIMS AS GUEST WORKERS

1. DURING COURTESY CALL ON AMBASSADOR ON OCTOBER 29, STEPHEN BECHTEL, SR., CHAIRMAN OF BECHTEL CORPORATION, MENTIONED THAT THE SAUDIS WERE INTERESTED IN BALANCING THEIR VARIOUS FORCES OF GUEST WORKERS AND HAD EXPRESSLY TOLD HIM THAT BECHTEL COULD BRING IN ANY NUMBER OF FOREIGN MUSLIMS FOR ITS WORK FORCE. MR. BECHTEL ASKED ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF EMPLOYING FILIPINO MUSLIMS FROM MINDANAO, AND HE WAS TOLD THAT BECAUSE OF THE MUSLIM CONFLICT THERE, THE FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT OF MUSLIMS MAY PRESENT SOME DIFFICULTY FOR THE GOP. MR. BECHTEL DID NOT PURSUE THE SUBJECT BUT ADDED THAT HIS COMPANY EMPLOYED MANY ITALIANS, WHO, ONCE WELL MOTIVATED AND ORGANIZED, WERE GOOD WORKERS.

2. COMMENT: FILIPINO MUSLIMS HAVE NOT VENTURED AFAR, EVEN WITHIN THE PHILIPPINES ITSELF, FOR EMPLOYMENT AND CANNOT COMPETE EVEN IN MINDANAO WITH THEIR BETTER EDUCATED AND TRAINED CHRISTIAN BROTHERS.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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